



## From My Heart to Yours...Kathy Tweeten, Administrator

*"Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed..." ~ II Timothy 2:15*

### Good Workmanship

I was brought up with the maxim: If a job's worth doing, it's worth doing well. I am sure you did, too. And now you are training your children the same way. We continue this training from generation to generation. And it's important that we keep passing on this baton, because it is a Biblical one. Excellence is part of the character of God. Isaiah 35:2c reads "they shall see the glory of the Lord, the excellency of our God."

I always tell students that their job in life right now is to be the best student that they can be. We all have jobs in life, and being a student that works to the best of their ability in everything they do is their job. But what is the motivation for striving for excellence? Good grades, rewards, accolades? Those might be the result of a job well done, but they shouldn't be the motivation. Because, as we all know, life isn't fair. You don't always win the prize or get the grade you thought you deserved. And if that is our reason for working hard, we will soon lose the motivation for trying. We often pursue excellence so that we will look good, but the higher motivation is to pursue excellence so that God will look good. God did not create us for mediocrity, but for excellence. Shoddy workmanship does not belong in the family of God. However, lasting success and true excellence seldom come overnight, and they always have a price.

When Thomas Edison invented the light bulb, he tried over 2000 experiments before he got it to work. A young reporter asked him how it felt to fail so many times. He said, "I never failed once. I invented the light bulb. It just happened to be a 2000-step process."

This illustration leads to my last point: Not only should we do each job we tackle to the very best of our ability, but if we start something, we should finish it. Sometimes we face obstacles in the things we start and we want to give up. To see a job through to the end is a Godly characteristic.

Excellence is not a state that we attain; it is a trait of God that we reflect by His gracious Spirit working in us. Let's carry on God's example of good workmanship in our own lives and impart this Godly character trait into the lives of our children and grandchildren.

gift of time, some the gift of talents, some the gift of finances, and some a combination of gifts. All these gifts are necessary for CHA to fulfill the vision that God has given us.

*"Where there is no vision, the people perish."* ~ Proverbs 29:18. Thank you for all that you have done and continue to do that is eternal and will not perish.